Hello, and welcome to A Climate to Thrive's (ACTT) first monthly e-newsletter with upcoming events, updates, and other opportunities to get involved.

Since our launch event in January, ACTT has been very busy! Four of the six action committees (alternative energy, building efficiency, food system, policy, transportation and zero waste) have been meeting and formulating next steps. The policy and building efficiency committees are about to have their first post-launch meetings.

These planning sessions are a great way to get involved with the work of
ACTT. For example, the Food System committee recently met over a potluck of delicious food to brainstorm next steps like supporting a school greenhouse and a gardener-to-land program. The Alternative Energy Committee spent a recent meeting watching a talk on future trends in energy and policy and planning the launch of a Solarize MDI project. Read committee meeting notes at our website and know that anyone is welcome at any committee meeting.

Additionally, ACTT has been strengthening our organizational core, working on fundraising, and initiating collaborations with other island organizations. This work will continue into the spring.

Enjoy our first e-newsletter, and we hope to see you at an upcoming event!

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**New website!**

We are excited to share our new website! Visit us at www.aclimatetothrive.org. The site includes information on all action committees, notes from recent meetings, upcoming events, resources and more! If you have resources for us to add, please don't hesitate to share them by emailing Johannah Blackman at johannah@aclimatetothrive.org.

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**Community Potluck Event**

On Thursday, April 28, A Climate to Thrive will host a community-wide potluck. These potlucks, which will be held seasonally, are a great opportunity to check out ACTT, get updates from all the committees and meet those involved, and hear from other community members about projects and ideas. We hope you will join us on April 28 at 5:30pm at the home of Jesse Wheeler and Ruth Poland, 245 Oak Hill Road in Bar Harbor. Email ruth@aclimatetothrive.org with any questions!
Upcoming Committee Meetings

Thursday, April 21, 5:00pm - Alternative Energy Committee meeting, email Gary Friedmann at gary@garyfriedmann.com for location and agenda.

Thursday, April 21, 5:30pm - Transportation Committee meeting, email Dennis Kiley at denniskiley@gmail.com for location and agenda.

Sunday, April 24, 9:00am - Zero Waste Committee meeting, Deering Commons, COA, email Lisa Bjerke at lbjerke@coa.edu for agenda.

Tuesday, April 26, 5:00pm - Building Efficiency Committee meeting, 245 Oak Hill Road, Bar Harbor (Jesse Wheeler & Ruth Poland's home), email Ruth Poland at ruth@aclimatetothrive.org for agenda.

Earth Day at COA

A Climate to Thrive is participating in COA's Earth Day celebration. Stop by our table between 11:00am and 4:00pm to hear more about our projects and how you can get involved. We are also looking for volunteers to help man ACTT's table - contact Ruth Poland at ruth@aclimatetothrive.org if you'd like to help out for an hour. We hope to see you there!

Compost Bin Bulk Buy Opportunity

A Climate to Thrive is organizing this year's compost bin bulk purchase through the Maine Resource Recovery Association.

**What:** Get an 80 gal. capacity home compost bin for $49; (over 60% off the original price!) when you participate in the annual MRRA bulk bin purchase. Bins are black, top-loading and come
with a 10-year warranty & instructions.

**How:** Email Ruth Poland at ruth@aclimatetothrive.org for an order form.

**When:** Orders are due by April 30. Bin pick-up will be 10am-2pm on June 4 at COA. You can make individual plans with Ruth for pick-up if needed.

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**Policy Corner**

**Bar Harbor Town Council Pay-As-You-Throw Vote** - On Tuesday, April 19, the Bar Harbor Town Council will vote on the proposed six-month trial period of Pay-As-You-Throw. There will be a public hearing prior to the vote and community members will be given the opportunity to speak. There will also be an opportunity to stand and be counted as either for or against the measure, therefore, showing up at the meeting is a good way to make sure that your feelings on the issue are taken into account. The meeting is in the Council Chambers at the Bar Harbor Town Hall - 93 Cottage Street in Bar Harbor. The meeting begins at 7:00pm, but the public is encouraged to arrive at 6:30pm as space is limited. [Visit this link to the WasteZero powerpoint on PAYT for more information.](#)

**L.D.1649, Proposed Solar Bill for Maine** - As you likely know, Maine's House and Senate are currently considering a bill that proposes plans for significant expansion of solar power in this state. Now is a good time to call Senator Brian Langley and let him know your stand on this measure. [You can read the Natural Resources Council of Maine's view of the bill here.](#) Contact Senator Langley at Brian.Langley@legislature.main.gov or by calling 207-287-1505. [Read a recent article on the bill's status here.](#)

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**Upcoming Community Offerings**

(Send your event for future newsletters to johannah@aclimatetothrive.org.)

College of the Atlantic and Samsø Energy Academy have joined forces to offer a five day workshop from May 30 - June 3, 2016 at the Samsø Energy Academy on Samsø Island, Denmark for government, education, and community leaders. In 2007 Samsø Island, Denmark became a carbon-negative island, producing more renewable energy.
energy than they consume. This 10-year effort, led by Søren Hermansen, maximized community engagement and economic rejuvenation. In this workshop, participants will see first-hand how the transformation created opportunities for both individuals and businesses and explore how the successes of Samso can be translated to a U.S. context given the social, economic and political differences. Read more at this link.